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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable HARRY REID, a Senator from the State of Nevada.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be by Rev. Leonard B. Jackson, Associate Minister of the First African Methodist Episcopal Church, Los Angeles, CA.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Eternal Father, from differing ways we come to this Senate Chamber in manifold thoughts, hopes, and fears, but together we join our hearts as one to ask that You hear our humble prayers:

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, You have brought us thus far on our way; cast Your shadow of love upon this Senate. Lord, grant us guidance that we may not betray our stewardship, neither mistaking the nature of our obligations nor taking for granted our charge. As we perform our sworn duty, may we stand with You, work for You, and bear with You the heavy yoke of righteousness and truth.

Father, our petition today is that You will bless the trailblazers who have paved the way and laid the foundation of our great Nation. Lord, alone we are not worthy but we can do all things through Him who strengthens us. Lord, we don't know what tomorrow holds, but we know the hand that holds tomorrow. Please keep us forever in the path we pray, so all people may share the reality of one nation under God, with liberty and justice for all.

God bless America.
Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable HARRY REID led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. CLINTON). The clerk will read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, March 7, 2002.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, a Senator from the State of New York, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. CLINTON thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from California is recognized.

THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I am so delighted today to welcome Reverend Jackson to our Senate family. Senator FEINSTEIN and I are so very proud of him and of the First African Methodist Episcopal Church of Los Angeles. Anyone who has visited the First African Methodist Episcopal Church of Los Angeles comes away uplifted and comes away in many ways a changed person. It is an ecumenical experience, if I might say that, because what the Reverend said today is what guides that church—that all of us should be righteous and seek justice and seek the truth. Of course, if we did that every day in this Senate and justice prevailed and truth prevailed and righteousness prevailed, this country would be on the best course.

I thank him from the bottom of my heart for that message which he gave us so quickly, but it is a very deep message which I hope we will all take to heart.

Welcome, Reverend Jackson.

Thank you, Madam President. I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, this morning the Senate will again resume consideration of the energy bill. There will be rollcall votes on amendments throughout the day. We understand that the first amendment will be offered by Senator VOINOVICH dealing with Price-Anderson. That should not take too long. We hope we can complete that early on. Senator BINGAMAN will then offer the next amendment.

We hope to make significant progress on this bill today and tomorrow and complete the legislation next week.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

NATIONAL LABORATORIES PARTNERSHIP IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2001

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 517, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 517) to authorize funding the Department of Energy to enhance the mission areas through technology transfer and partnerships for fiscal years 2002 through 2006, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Daschle/Bingaman further modified amendment No. 2917, in the nature of a substitute.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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